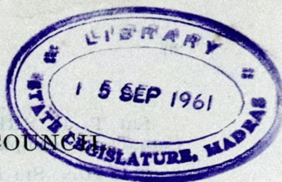


THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Saturday, the 21st January 1961.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Statutory Rules and Regulations

*1 *Q.*—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of amendments to Statutory Rules and Regulations relating to services issued by the Government in 1958–59 and 1959–60; and

(*b*) whether the Madras Public Service Commission was consulted in all the cases, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) During 1958–59 and 1959–60, statutory rules or amendments to them were issued by Government in 335 and 396 cases respectively. No separate figures in respect of amendments alone are readily available.

(*b*) The Commission was consulted in almost all cases in respect of which it was necessary to consult it before issue of amendments, under the Madras Public Service Commission Regulations, 1954.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : May I know whether Police Standing Order No. 90 is a statutory one or not?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It would be very difficult to answer such a question. If the hon. Member will put a separate question, I will look into it.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : May I know whether it is usual to change statutory orders into non-statutory orders? If so, what is the procedure that is usually adopted?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : This question relates to the number of cases in which the Government had changed the rules without consulting the Commission. Except the one case reported by the Commission in its report, there has not been a single instance in which the Government have changed the rules without consulting the Commission. If the hon. Member wants other information, he may have to put another question.

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SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Did the Public Service Commission complain that it was not consulted?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : As I said, in only one case the Commission was not consulted. The hon. Member may kindly refer to G.O. No. 2767, dated 26th October 1958. That was the only instance in which Government did not consult the Commission, as already mentioned by me, and there has been no other such instance.

Press Comments

* 2 *Q*.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any instructions have been issued to the Secretaries to Government and Heads of Departments to take cognizance of the various complaints ventilated through the Press in regard to administrative matters; and

(*b*) if so, what they are?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) No, Sir. But important press comments are scrutinized in the Information Department, and brought to the notice of the department concerned for suitable action.

(*b*) Does not arise.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : What action was taken by the Government when their attention was drawn to certain statements made in the Press alleging so many things against the Government?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The Information Department takes out cuttings of these comments and they are sent to the respective departments as also to the concerned Ministers. Then suitable action is being taken on them.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : In how many instances have Government taken action on such press comments?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The question is far too general and, therefore, if the hon. Member would point out any particular instance and ask what action was taken by the Government on that, then Government will be able to answer it.

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM : டிரக்டர் ஆப் பப்ளிக் இன்ஸ்ட்ராக்ஷன் "முன்னால் இருந்த மந்திரிகளைப் பற்றியோ சர்க்காரைப் பற்றியோ, அவர்களுடைய கொள்கை சரியல்ல, அவர்களுக்குத் தவறான வழியில் அதிகாரிகள் பாதை காட்டிவிட்டார்கள்" என்று சொன்னதாகப் பத்திரிகையில் செய்தி வந்திருக்கிறதே, அது அரசாங்கத்தின் கவனத்திற்கு வந்திருக்கிறதா? வந்திருந்தால், அதன் பேரில் சர்க்கார் என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள்?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : அதைக் குறித்துத் தனிக் கேள்வி போட்டால், என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்பட்டது என்று சொல்ல முடியும்.